

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A quick-pin blade tensioning device for a band saw including an upper band wheel mounted via an upper arm, the upper band wheel ~~operationally~~ engaging a band saw blade, comprising:

a sliding tension bracket for ~~operationally~~ engaging ~~with~~ the upper band wheel and the upper arm of the band saw;

a lifting shoe ~~operationally~~ coupled with the sliding tension bracket and configured and dimensioned to be for being received within the upper arm of the band saw, ~~the lifting shoe further configured for causing and to slide~~ the sliding tension bracket ~~to slide~~ within the upper arm of the band saw;

a pin for contacting and moving the lifting shoe, ~~the pin for moving the lifting shoe~~ within the upper arm of the band saw;

a tension crank ~~having including~~ a first end and a second end, the first end coupled with the pin, the tension crank ~~being~~ configured and dimensioned to be received within the upper arm of the band saw, the tension crank ~~for moving~~ capable of rotating the pin;

a tension handle having a first position and a second position, the tension handle coupled with the second end of the tension crank, the tension handle ~~for imparting a rotation to the~~ rotates the tension crank causing the pin to move rotate about the tension crank when the tension handle is moved,

wherein the tension handle, when in the first position, ~~moves~~ rotates the pin to a position where the pin abuts the lifting shoe out of contact with the lifting shoe and releases tension from the band saw blade and, when in the second position, ~~moves~~ rotates the pin to a position where the pin into contacts and moves with the lifting shoe, and applies tension to the band saw blade.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The quick-pin blade tensioning device of claim 1, wherein the band saw further includes a standard blade tensioning device.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Original) The quick-pin blade tensioning device of claim 1, wherein the tension handle is removable from the tension crank.
6. (Currently Amended) The quick-pin blade tensioning device of claim 1, wherein the tension handle ~~is enabled with~~ having at least three positions.
7. (Currently Amended) The quick-pin blade tensioning device of claim 1, wherein the amount of tension applied to the band saw blade when the tension handle is moved increases as the size of the tension crank size increases.
8. (Currently Amended) A band saw including an upper band wheel ~~operationally~~ engaging a band saw blade, comprising:
 - a quick-pin blade tensioning device ~~operationally~~ coupled with the upper band wheel of the band saw, the quick-pin blade tensioning device comprising,
 - a sliding tension bracket ~~operationally~~ engaging with an upper arm of the band saw and the upper band wheel;
 - a lifting shoe coupled with the sliding tension bracket and configured and dimensioned to be ~~for being~~ received within the upper arm of the band saw, ~~the lifting shoe further configured for causing and to slide~~ the sliding tension bracket ~~to slide~~ within the upper arm;
 - a pin for contacting and moving the lifting shoe, ~~the pin for moving the lifting shoe~~ within the upper arm of the band saw;
 - a tension crank having including a first end and a second end, the first end coupled with the pin, the tension crank being configured and dimensioned to be received within the upper arm, the tension crank ~~for moving~~ capable of rotating the pin;
 - a tension handle having a first position and a second position, the tension handle coupled with the second end of the tension crank, the tension handle ~~for imparting a rotation to the~~ rotates

the tension crank causing the pin to ~~move~~ rotate about the tension crank when the tension handle is moved,

wherein the tension handle, when in the first position, ~~moves~~ rotates the pin to a position where the pin abuts the lifting shoe ~~out of contact with the lifting shoe~~ and releases tension from the band saw blade and, when in the second position, ~~moves~~ rotates the pin to a position where the pin ~~into contacts~~ and moves with the lifting shoe, and applies tension to the band saw blade.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The band saw of claim 8, wherein the band saw further includes a standard blade tensioning device.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The band saw of claim 8, wherein the tension handle is removable from the tension crank.

13. (Currently Amended) The quick-pin blade tensioning device of claim 8, wherein the tension handle ~~is enabled with~~ having at least three positions.

14. (Currently Amended) The quick-pin blade tensioning device of claim 8, wherein the amount of tension applied to the band saw blade when the tension handle is moved increases as the size of the tension crank ~~size~~ increases.

15.-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Withdrawn) A method for adjusting the tension of a band saw blade operationally coupled with an upper band wheel of a band saw, comprising:

positioning a quick-pin blade tensioning device comprising a sliding tension bracket, coupled to a lifting shoe engaged by a pin coupled with a tension crank, in operational contact with the upper band wheel and an upper arm of the band saw and providing a tension handle,

coupled to the tension crank, for engagement by a user, followed by at least one step selected from the group consisting of;

rotating the tension handle to a first position whereby the blade tensioning device moves the upper band wheel in a first direction decreasing tension in the blade; and

rotating the tension handle to a second position whereby the blade tensioning device moves the upper band wheel in a second direction increasing tension on the blade.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the tension handle is removable from the tension crank.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the pin is removable from the tension crank.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of determining operation of the band saw after the tension handle has been rotated into the first or second position.